New rule for trainee officers of IFS

†3292. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trainee officers of Indian Forests Services are not allowed to appear in any Civil Services Examination for three years as per a particular rule of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT);

(b) whether above rule is also applicable on the trainee officers of other Indian Administrative Services;

(c) if not, the reasons for this anomaly; and

(d) whether said rule has been formulated with the consent of Union Public Service Commission and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for violating the rules of Union Public Service Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) Indian Forest Services (Probation) Rules, 1968, Sub Rule 1 of Rule 8 provides that no probationer in the Service shall, during the period of training at the Forest Research Institute and Colleges, Dehradun appear in either the Civil Services Examination or any other examination for appointment to the Central or State services by open competitive examination. This rule was incorporated through an amendment to the Indian forest Service (Probation) Rules, 1968 during the year 1994 with a view to addressing the problem that the Indian Forest Service probationers had not been taking their training seriously and absenting from the training for preparing for other competitive examinations. Before amending the said rule, the Ministry of Environment and forest had undertaken consultations with the Union Public Service Commission and all the State Governments.

Cases registered against Karipur airport official by CBI

3293. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action is taken by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on complaints/reports of corruption, grafting hence harassment of passengers in Karipur airport located in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof including number of cases registered, officials *prima facie* involved, and charges le[illegible]lled as on today, category-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of assets of these officials observed/recorded and irregularities/graft found to be received as on today; and

(d) the number of cases registered and official charged on above charges in various airports of Kerala for last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) On the basis of a complaint dated 1.11.2005, a surprise check was conducted by CBI at the Karipur airport, Calicut on 02.11.2005 and a case in RC-26(A)/2005-Ker has been registered on 03.11.2005 against an Inspector and a Havildar of Central Excise, Karipur Airport, Calicut for demand and acceptance of bribe. No other case has been registered during the last three years on charges of corruption, in Airports of Kerala. It will not be appropriate to disclose the result of the searches at this stage since the disclosure may impede the course of investigation in the case.

Removal of gap between common man and IAS officers

†3294. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to remove gap between common man and IAS officers;

(b) if so, the detail thereof and by when it would be implemented;

(c) the extent to which this gap would be removed; and

(d) the benefit likely to be had by common man as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):(a) to (d) A number of steps have been taken to bring the Government closer to the citizen and empowering them to participate in governance meaningfully. These include-efficient and transparent delivery to services, implementation and monitoring of delivery of services, easy accessibility to information and services and an accountability mechanism to fix responsibility for results. Initiatives like Citizens' Charter, Information and Facilitation Counters are intended to help in improving transparency and accountability in delivery of services, Public Grievance Redressal mechanism provides a feedback about systemic problems and facilitates prompt redressal of grievances. Right to information Act and emphasis on outcomes in place of outlay ensure transparency and accountability by providing relevant information and ensuring

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.